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The Hand Across the Continent.

Not only is San Francisco in ruins, but most of her people are ruined. Those who are able to give must not withhold contributions from a feeling that the relief fund will be adequate without their help. The duty of the hour is to give. Such is the pride and courage of Californians that they will not accept aid for their stricken towns a moment longer than they need it. But who can measure the distress of a quarter of a million of people without money for food and without prospect of immediate employment? Hunger can be relieved quickly enough, perhaps, by the Government and by various towns on the coast which escaped the earthquake, although it is not a simple problem; but for a long time to come great numbers of people in San Francisco will be idle as well as homeless. There will be much sickness as well as want. The building trades will soon be at work, but merchants and many other employers of labor will have more or less difficulty in resuming business. Credits may not be good, and thousands of places where business was done are no more. In many cases improvisation will not be easy.

There will probably be an exodus from San Francisco of those who have the means to travel and can find opportunities elsewhere; but they will be the minority, and the rest must stay to get what work they can and live from hand to mouth. San Francisco is therefore that an American city has ever had to deal with. Since the Spanish war San Francisco

had been enjoying a boom after years of depression; the advantage has been lost and the gains swept away, together with most of her capital. Her condition is beyond the power of imagination to conceive; but, deplorable as it is, courage will not die in her. After losses have been adjusted and credit reestablished the waste places will be rebuilt and public contracts let. Enterprise will pick up the lost and broken threads. But it is going to take a long time to make a fair start; meanwhile the ranks of the dependent poor will be swelled by thousands who never expected to know want. San Francisco may be said not to have a place to lay its head, and it will have to begin the world over again. With such an economic problem there has been no experience in America, for the condition of Chicago after the great fire does not supply a comparison. The helping hand cannot be too full. This is no time for thinking twice.

The Great Fortunes of the Good. We hope that an esteemed correspondent who speaks of Mr. ROOSEVELT as "the enemy of accumulated wealth" misunderstands the President.

The acquisition and possession of great fortunes by good and public spirited men seems to be regarded with approval by Mr. ROOSEVELT. In his second annual message to Congress, in December of 1902, the President said:

" Great fortunes have been won by those who have taken the lead in this phenomenal industrial development, and most of these fortunes have been won not by doing evil, but as an incident to action which has benefited the community as a whole. Never before has material wellbeing been so widely diffused among our people. Great fortunes have been accumulated, and yet in the aggregate these fortunes are small indeed when compared with the wealth of the people as a whole. The plain people are better off than they have ever been before."

Is it not possible that when Mr. Roose-VELT comes to prepare the details of his broadly suggested plan he may deem it necessary to discriminate between great fortunes that have been beneficent in the process of acquisition, and those attended by evil consequences to the community; just, for example, as he has always consistently distinguished the good trust from the bad?

Some Advice from Canada.

The Montreal Star finds reason to thank the goodness and the grace that smiled on the birth of Canada for the alleged fact that the Dominion has a better system of government than has

the United States: "The weakness of the American system of government is being demonstrated almost daily now by the relations between President ROOSEVELT and the Senate. Both are Republicans, and yet the series of contests between the two over vital questions is now the most spectacular feature of Ameri-

can politics." Such an experience would be almost if not quite impossible in Canada. Up cies. If the party does not support him he steps down and out. The execumust be in harmony. The Star avers why the salaries of various city emthat "the division of power at Washing- ployees need readjustment, and dozen require, for a time at least, the benefit of

ton brings a diffusion of respons bility," and that a "definite leadership i", a necessity for responsible government." It offers this illustrations

" At the present moment, for instance, the Re

publican party should be responsible for either

the policy of the Senators or that of the President; but he is a wise American citizen who knows which he is voting for when he votes Republican." The Star does not stop at the point of noting the "weakness of the American system"; it provides a remedy which is open to some objection on the ground that the principle involved is not entirely consistent with a long accepted idea of republican government from the

American point of view: "American politics would be immensely benefited if Theodore Roosevelt would take the bit between his teeth and make a fight against the conditions which now seem to fetter him. If he would frankly declare himself to be a candidate for an other term, that would be a daring party manager who would venture to risk his political life in opposing him. Then he could appeal to the people to send him Representatives and Senators who would agree with his policy, and in this way he should be able to build up around himself a political party which could go somewhere so long as it had a large share of public confidence. Any man blocking it in the Senate could be publicly labelled an opponent, and his defeat assured at

the end of his term." The respective merits of the Canadian system and that of the United States can be much better determined when Canada has a population of 60,000,000 instead of 6,000,000. The framers of the Constitution of the United States deemed it wise while the framers of Canada's Constitution thought it best to follow that system very closely. Somehow the United States manages to rub along and make progress at a rate that is visible to the naked eye, and it is by no means certain that its progress would be accelerated under Canadian methods.

Earthquake Predictions and Fire.

Dr. C. W. HAYES, the Washington eologist, is said to have expressed the opinion yesterday that the time will come when seismologists may gain such knowledge as to be able to predict the coming of earthquakes and to send out warnings of the impending danger. He thinks this advantage will be gained ultimately by providing a large number of stations with facilities for a prompt exchange of observations.

It is doubtful if many seismologists will agree with this opinion. Twenty years ago, in the early days of the scientific study of earthquakes, hopes were expressed that such knowledge would at length be attained as to give value to earthquake predictions. This aim was especially kept in view for years, but up to the present time not a particle of face to face with the greatest problem | progress has been made in this direction and none of the leading writers on earthquakes has the slightest faith in it.

Major Dutton in his recent book says that great earthquakes come without intelligible warning, for though it is true that such catastrophes "have been preceded in a considerable number of instances by minor shocks and quivers and by ominous sounds, these are far from implying necessarily a subsequent disaster, for they occur a hundred times without further consequence."

Even if it should ever be possible to predict earthquakes with some degree of accuracy, the ability so to do would be calamitous, rather than beneficent accurate. The late Professor FALB was not a charlatan. His position as a scientific man was respectable, except that through some curious cerebral twist he got the notion that he could foretell the coming of earthquakes. Every one has heard of the consternation into which his predictions threw the people of Athens and of Santiago, Chile, the flight of thousands and the misery of the whole population; and yet events entirely falsified his omens of evil. The inhabitants of earthquake countries are asking for no prognostications of the average merit of our weather predictions. Prophecies that might or might not be fulfilled would be almost worse than the earthquakes themselves.

Fires are unfortunately the usual concomitant of earthquakes, but never before have we seen such a record of the destruction wrought by this second evil which follows so closely on the heels of the shocks. In the great Japan earthquake of 1891, when about 10,000 persons were killed and 15,000 were hurt, a large, part of the loss of life was due to the fires that destroyed many hundreds, who were pinned down under fallen roofs and could not escape from the flames. kindled chiefly in the kitchens where the housewives were at work when the buildings collapsed.

Losing a Reputation.

The New York Board of Aldermen is rapidly losing the reputation that it spent seven years in building up. By strict inattention to business, by careful neglect of their duties, by conscientious abuse of their powers, the boards that existed during the Van Wyck, Low and first McClellan administrations succeeded in convincing the public that a municipal legislature was a useless survival, an obstructive department of the city government. More than once it was suggested in all seriousness that the board be abolished and its functions transferred to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. From time to time the Legislature did trim its authority. until, of the various powers it possessed on, January 1, 1898, only a few remained with it.

Since the Aldermen elected last November took office, however, there has been a most gratifying change in the board's manner of conducting public business. Its committee hearings have resulted in making clear the matters that were considered. The reports rendered to the whole body by the committees contain information on which opinions may be formed with some degree of intelligence. They consist of there they have a Premier instead of a explanations and recommendations, in-President. The Premier represents and stead of recommendations only, as was leads his party and formulates its poli- formerly the case. It is possible to learn from them why grants of public money are made, why public bidding tive branch and the legislative branch is dispensed with in certain contracts,

of other things that help to a complete understanding of the intricate machinery by means of which New York is governed.

Steady persistence in its new policy will result in a radical change in public opinion with regard to the Board of Aldermen. Instead of being looked on as an expensive, dangerous and useless department, it will become an important and valuable municipal body, meriting and receiving the hearty respect of the citizens. If the Hon. TIMOTHY P. SULLI-VAN succeeds, as many persons believe he may, in wresting control of the board from its present leader, the Hon. JAMES COWDEN MEYERS, he will do well not to allow it to slip back into its former lazy and unsatisfactory habits.

Need of Another Federal Judge.

Congress has been asked to authorize the appointment of another Judge for the Southern district of New York. . The situation confronting the Federal judiciary in this territory is a serious one. Since 1873 the terms of the Federal courts for criminal business in the district have been held by the Judge for the Eastern district, pursuant to Section 613 of the Revised Statutes. The business of the courts has been so great that only rarely have any of the Circuit Judges or the Judges for the Southern district been able to devote time to the criminal terms, and now the business of the Eastern district has grown to such proportions that the district Judge of that territory has to get away from the English system, been obliged to give notice that after January 1 he will be obliged to confine his sittings to his own court.

Of the two Judges in the Southern district one is occupied almost wholly with admiralty cases, and the other with bankruptcy proceedings. In the report of the Committee on the Judiciary favoring the authorization of another district Judge, which has just been made to the Senate, it is pointed out that "unless an additional judgeship is created either the criminal business must go unheard or the civil business must be neglected.' In a joint letter to the Senate Committee the Circuit Judges say:

" It seems likely that there will be considerabl increase in the criminal business of the Southern district; indeed, the prosecutions under the Auti Trust law, a number of which are now in a preliminary stage and are of a character which will consume a great amount of time, will of themselves considerably increase the work."

In his report for 1905 Attorney-General MOODY called attention to the congested conditions existing in the district, and pointed out that "with the priority which is and should be given to the trial of such cases where the defendants are in prison awaiting trial there is little time available for the trial of bail cases, so little that at some terms of court it is impossible to try a single bail case." The necessity for relief is obvious, and the Attorney-General's statement shows how urgently it is needed. The question is not one of politics, but of the proper administration of the law, and Congress should not delay the much needed relief.

The Earthquake and Foundation Soils.

In rebuilding San Francisco and other dismantled towns in California the architects will have to consult the seismologists to learn what foundation soils were most affected by the earthquake shock. The danger of the Pacific coast to seismic disturbance has always been known, unless the predictions were absolutely but the study of foundations has been neglected, or, from a false security, the lesson of experience has been disregarded. Governor PARDEE reports that about one-fifteenth of the State suffered damage from the earthquake on Wednesday; so the scientists will have a wide

field for their speculations. DAVID SHARPE, who made an investigation of the force of the Lisbon earthquake on different soils, learned that not a house built upon the Almada blue clay which underlay the greater part of the city escaped destruction. On the lower slope of hills rising from the clay beds the havoe was not general. On the strata of Tertiary deposits next above, described as a conglomerate without fossils, the damage was much less severe; while houses on the hippuritic limestone, or basalt, higher up still, sustained no damage whatever. And yet the shock of the Lisbon earthquake was felt over a great part of Europe.

Respectfully Submitted.

Would it not be profitable intellectually and financially for the exposers to fire a few more volleys at the United States Senate and House of Representatives for appropriating, almost instantly after the dire news of San Francisco's devastation was known, \$1,000,000 of the public money for the sufferers?

Then, too, a barrel or two of ink might be exploded upon President ROOSEVELT and Secretary TAFT and all their tribe for daring to ship by quick trains thousands of Government tents to the homeless ones. Nor should the New York Chamber of Commerce, the sordid New York millionaires, sometimes known as citizens, and humbler folks, all of whom are hurling hundreds of thousands of dollars out of their own pockets at the afflicted ones of San Francisco, be overlooked as fruitful subjects for condemnation at the hands of the magazinists

and their followers. The prompt and proper action of Congress, the substantial sympathy so generously and so spontaneously manifested by those selfish plutocrats, ought surely to furnish a new topic of current magazine interest for those who but for the law of gravitation might have ascended heavenward years and years ago.

The Odell apportionment for New York county should be confronted at Albany by the Sheet Anchor of all successful Empire State politicians-the Constitution.

One of the few adverse arguments used

by those who opposed the consolidation of Brooklyn with New York was the claim that Brooklyn, with an acreage more than three times as great as Manhattan's, and much of it undeveloped, had reached in 1896 the limitation of its lawful borrowing capacity for public improvements, and that further improvements would be made at the expense, or largely at the expense, of Manhattan. It was claimed, too, that Queens and Richmond, undeveloped territory, would

New York's great credit for necessary im-

During 1905 public improvements to the amount of \$5,866,130, distinct from such public works as bridges, subways, schools, frehouses, parks and docks, were provided for by the city, as shown in the report of Chief Engineer LEWIS of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to Mayor McClellan. This is the statement of the division of that expenditure among the boroughs of the Greater New York: Manhattan, \$865,530; Brooklyn, \$1,858,150; The Bronx, \$2,097,200;

Queens, \$972,750, and Richmond, \$72,500. It thus appears that during 1905 The Bronx was the borough most benefited by these public improvements, and that Brooklyn and Queens in large measure had the advantage of Manhattan in the city's expenditures. The area of Brooklyn is 49,000 acres, of Manhattan 14,000, of The Bronx 26,000, of Richmond 36,000 and of Queens 83,000. All have benefited by consolidation.

It was unkind of Senator KEAN to propose that the galleries be cleared when Mr. LA FOLLETTE was making his speech on the railroad rate bill, for a clearance would have reduced the audience to Senators KEAN and NELSON. As to Mr. LA FOLLETTE's complaint that he had to talk to empty seats, he should remember that no one has written and talked more on the general subject than himself, and Senators may be presumed to know his views.

The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission complains of a dearth of heroes and is said to be embarrassed by its surplus. It is submitted that there is a fine field for pensions in the prostrate city, or what remains of it, by the Golden Gate.

Many heroes of both sexes will come out of the hell of shock and fire in San Francisco, and not the least of them will be the man on guard with a battered engine at O'Farrell street and Van Ness avenue, who, being asked what he proposed to do when the flames were racing toward him, replied: We are waiting for it to come. When it gets here we will make one more stand. If it crosses Van Ness avenue the city is

"The Sun's" News From San Francisco. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: usual, your account this morning of the San Francisco calamity, and especially the connected and vivid description on your first page—an admirable piece of newspaper writing-made the other fellows look like amateurs with the stage fright.

AN OLD NEWSPAPER MAN. NEW YORK, April 19. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: THE

Sun's covering of the San Francisco disaster this morning was a beautiful piece of news-J. C. HICKEY. TOWANDA, Pa., April 19.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Permit me to congratulate THE SUN on the magnificent way in which it has handled the news of the San Francisco disaster, both in the news columns and on the editorial page.

It appears that one paper in this city has

had the nerve to find in this event a subject for a cartoon. I am not a Californian, and it is none of my business, but if I were I think I should invade that office and kill somebody. Not only did that paper apparently view this incredible horror as a fit text for a very poor joke, but in its editorial on the subject great stress was laid on the loss of property and almost nothing was said about the loss of life. There are some forms of bad taste which ought to send a man to jail. INVETERATE "SUN" WORSHIPPER.

NEW YORK, April 20. Disposing of Mr. Roosevelt's Future.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: "What ve do with Mr. Roosevelt after his present term as President ends?" I see by yesterday's Sun that he seems to incline to the Senatorship of New York.

That's a noble office and there are good precedents for such positions being taken by an ex-President. But I want to suggest a plan worth two or three such. I will not go into the arguments in favor of it-but simply imitate Mr. Roosevelt's method anent his theory for curtailing enormous incomes and dangerous accumu-

tions of capital: namely, state my plan, and then let the politicians and statesmen and philosophers debate it and work it out. This, you see, is very little trouble to me, and will give the aforesaid quidnuncs plenty to do tween now and the next Presidential elec-This is the plan: 1. Put Elihu Root in as next President. 2. Let him choose Theodore Roosevelt his Secretary of State.

This, it is easy to see, will assure all that is hoped for by those who have urged still another term for Mr. Roosevelt, and will continue the two best sets of brains in the United States in positions favorable for the working out of the Rooseveltian policy for saving the nation from the dangers now threatening it, whether from the "oppressions capital" or the "seditions and rebellions Respectfully submitted.

THOMPSON H. LANDON. BORDENTOWN, N. J., April 20.

San Francisco. From the Poems of Bret Harte Serene, indifferent to Fate. Thou sittest at the Western Gate; Upon thy heights so lately won Thou seest the white seas strike their tents, O Warder of two Continents And scornful of the peace that flies Thy angry winds and sullen skies, Thou drawest all things, small or great-To thee, beside the Western Gate. O llon's whelp, that hidest fast In jungle growth of spire and mast I know thy cunning and thy greed, Thy hard high lust and wilful deed, and all thy glory loves to tell Of specious gifts material. Drop down, O fleecy Fog. and blde Her sceptic sneer, and all her pride Wrap her, O Fog, in gown and hood Of her Franciscan Brotherhood. Hide me her faults, her sin and blame With thy gray mantle cloak her shame! So shall she, cowled, sit and pray Till morning bears her sins away. Then rise, O fleecy Fog, and raise The glory of her coming days; Be as the cloud that flecks the seas Above her smoky argosies. When forms familiar shall give place To stranger speech and newer face When all her throes and anxious fears Lie hushed in the repose of years; When Art shall raise and Culture lift The sensual joys and meaner thrift, And all fulfilled the vision, we Who watch and wait shall never see-Who, in the morning of her race, Toiled fair or meanly in our place-But, yielding to the common lot, Lie unrecorded and forgot.

Our Lady of the Golden Gate. ene, indifferent to Fate," she stands-Bare breasted, girt with sand, and sun caressed With power undiminished, strength unguessed Till now, though gaping pits and rav'ning brands Have scorched her tunic and have scarred her As who should say: "My race is not yet run.

My triumph comes when my new days are pleasing sight Bring bay and laurel! These are my demands. These fellows should be made to pass an exam-So speaks Our Lady of the Golden Gate, And we who hear the marvel of her voice Smile back and toss her laurel, rose and bay; Because serene indifference to Fate

reeds strength to conquer, power to gain a choice That thrusts our night of sorrow into day. J. C. B. ANDREWS.

DAY OF THE FIRST AMERICAN

PHILADELPHIA, April 20 .- The celebration of the bicentenary of Franklin's birth is being brought to a close this evening by a somewhat informal gathering of a social nature in one of the large hotels here. The public exercises of a dignified nature ended this morning when, at the Academy of Music, addresses were delivered by the Secretary of State, the President of Harvard University, Mr. Joseph Hodges Choate and Mr. Horace Howard Furness. Secretary Root's part consisted of presenting to the Ambassador of France a gold medal struck by order of the Congress of the United States, in order that the people of France might have a lasting knowledge that the people of America remembered which country it was that first gave Franklin his due recognition. During the afternoon at the rooms of the American Philosophical Society, some nine papers were read to the delegates representing universities and learned societies of America and Europe.

Perhaps the scenes of widest interest were enacted yesterday when these guests of the society visited Franklin's tomb and laid wreaths thereon, and, earlier in the day, at the Academy of Music, where were held memorial exercises by the University of Pennsylvania, which institution was practically founded by Franklin, certainly placed on a lasting basis through his individual efforts. Nearly a score of degrees were conferred by the university, among them one worthy of special notice, that bestowed upon the King of England, in absentia, through the person of the Ambassador of Great Britain to the United States. Addressing Sir Mortimer Durand, the provost of the university spoke briefly, and his words may be quoted for the reason that this is the first time an American degree of learning has been accepted by an English King. Said the provost:

Edward VII., King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India, represented by the person of his Ambassador. * * At the Court of St. James's, ipon the twelfth day of August, 1763, his Majesty King George III. being present, in council, it was ordered that the Right Honorable the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain cause letters paten to be prepared and passed under the Great Seal authorizing the first provost, William Smith, to collect funds from all well disposed persons the assistance and benefit of the college, academy and charitable school of Philadelphia; and upon the ninth day of April, 1764, the Archbishop of Canterbury, together with Thomas and Richard Penn, addressed a joint letter to the trustees of the college congratulating them upon the great success which had attended the efforts of the first provos through his Majesty's royal brief."

After a moment's pause the provost, still addressing the British Ambassador, announced:

The trustees of the University of Pennsylvania successors of the trustees of the same foundation bearing in mind the interest which his Majesty the then King of England so graciously in the infant institution in the Colony of Pennsyl vania, now confer upon his Majesty Edward VII., impersonating England, the highest degree in their power to bestow

Following the bestowal of degrees Hampton L. Carson, Attorney-General of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, delivered an address, recalling that until Franklin came to Philadelphia, then the most important city in the country, its sidewalks were unpaved, the streets were unlighted, the fire brigade had no existence, the town watch was unknown, there was no public library, no hospital, no college and no philosophical society here. Houses were cold until Franklin's practical genius gave them the stove, which for actual heating purposes has never been improved upon; chimneys smoked until he cured them; destructive fires were common until he safeguarded buildings from lightning strokes; the very shipping was in danger during stress of weather until he taught seafaring men how to pour oil upon the troubled waters. It is the intensely practical side to all of Franklin's philosophical teachings which, as already noted in this correspondence, continues to be emphasized by those gathered to honor his memory. As for his sense of humor, Mr. Carson recalled the fact that when Dr. Priestley questioned whether the American Colonies could hold out in their war with England Franklin sat down with pen and paper, after the battle of Bunker Hill, and figured the problem thus: "Britain, at the expense of three millions, has killed one hundred and fifty Yankees this campaign. During the same time sixty thousand children have been born. From these data, the mathematical head of our dear, good friend Dr Price will easily calculate the time and expense that may be necessary to kill us all.

Perhaps the most striking phase of Franklin's character treated, however, was his patriotism, his faith in the people of the country as a whole, his insistence upon the preservation of individual and corporate rights so long as they were not used for oppressing the people; in a word, his true Americanism, which amounted to a passion. He saw that what a Government had to do, whether of colonial or national form, was to restrain its citizens from invading each other's rights and compel them to respect each other's freedom. This was the keynote of his long fight against the proprietaries of Pennsylvania. To-day he stands forth a veritable figure of democracy incarnate-the democracy not of one political party or another, but of a great and free people. As such a figure, as a scientist, man of letters, statesman, educator, organizer of public and private business enterprises, Benjamin Franklin has been fittingly honored this week by a company of great men, gathered from the world's most famous seats of learning, in the city where were rendered most of his vital services to mankind.

The Japanese in San Francisco. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: To-day the word is "Relief" for the sufferers from the disastrous earthquake in San Francisco. Among the 300,000 nomeless San Franciscans there must be at least nomeless San Franciscans there must be at least 10,000 Japanese, since there are some 20,000 of our fellow countrymen in San Francisco and the neigh-borhood, and their residence section, as well as their business section, has gone long ago, judged from the reports of the burning of the city. We Japanese in New York and the vicinity should do Japanese in the state of the sufferers. But we are utterly in the dark as to what is becoming of them, except as regards the names of a few dead, which have already been published in the papers. There were two Japanese dailes in San Francisco before the disaster, but our opinion is that they could not keep their types in order in time of the quake. Perhaps the printing machines and all have been destroyed utterly we do not expect to receive any copies of the papers which should have been printed since the papers which should have been printed since the first day of the disaster were it not for that. No telegraphic messages came to us from any of the Japanese there. We have to appeal to the Ameri can press to make an effort to find out what is becoming of the 20,000 Japanese San Franciscans. BROOKLYN, April 20. JIHRI HASHIGUCHI.

Wants to Put the Vaudeville Singers in Jail. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It seems to me that the quartet and other singers vaudeville stage in this city should-most of them be sent to fall for murdering music. Besides, generally, they seem to be personally ugly wretches who make themselves uglier by dressing as shocblacks, newspaper boys, &c., as if rags were a

ination like doctors, school teachers, Government employees. &c., before they are allowed to go on the stage to insult their audiences. They seem to know as much about music as the average yellow down but they should know that some, at least, of heir audiences are not shoestring pediers. New York, April 19. F. H. J.

HONOLULU CABLE INTACT.

Fests Show That Wires Were Cut and Insu

lated on Pacific Coast. The officials of the Commercial Pacific Cable Company announced yesterday afternoon that as the result of tests made from Honolulu there was no doubt that the link of the Pacific cable between Hawaii and San Francisco was undisturbed by the earth quake. They expected that the broken communication around the world would be reached as soon as the Government ship can reach the cable hut near San Francisco with batteries

On Thursday night the operators at Hono lulu reported, via India, that they could get no answer from the San Francsico end of the cable. Yesterday they sent word by the same route that their tests showed that the cable itself was all right and, furthermore, that the San Francisco end of the cable had been insulated by some one.

According to Manager Clapperton of the cable company the fact that the cable had been insulated shows that the cable operators who were ordered to go to the hut after the fire threatened the offices in San Francisco reached there all right and had cut the cable at that point, but did not have sufficient power to work it. No word has come from the operators since they were ordered out to the hut This is explained, the company says, by the fact that the hut is the far side of the fire swept area. The cable formerly ran without a break under the ground into the office building

on Market street in the city proper, but the operatrs naturally cut the cable at the hut and connected their instruments there. The company got word yesterday after-noon that the Mare Island Navy Yard was preparing to send out a boat with batteries to reach the hut and supply the cable with

A despatch received yesterday telling of

A despatch received yesterday telling of an earthquake at Honolulu was sent east-ward from there by way of India The officials of the cable company re-ceived a despatch last night from the Mare Island Navy Yard which said that the cutter sent to the cable landing had re-turned and had reported that the cable hut had been destroyed by the earthquake. turned and had reported that the cable had had been destroyed by the earthquake. The hut stood in an isolated spot on the shore and was a small, low building built to withstand heavy storms. The operators, the despatch said, were safe. They had remained at the cable landing, apparently without shelter, ever since Wednesday. without shelter, ever since Wednesday The cable was found to be all right and, ac cording to the navy officers, connection had been made with the land cable again at the landing and by this morning ected that it would be possible to work cable from Oakland. The Navy Department has sent out a force to help in repairing the cable landing. The cabl will not be open for business until this is done, but it was hoped to complete the work some time to do.

ELSBERG BILL HEARING.

Believed That the Mayor Will Sign the Measure as It Stands.

work some time to-day.

Mayor McClellan held a public hearing resterday on the Elsberg rapid transit bill. For the most part the arguments were a repetition of those made a couple of weeks ago before the Joint Cities Committee of the Legislature. The measure provides that vacancies in the Rapid Transit Commission shall hereafter be filled by the Mayor; that the terms upon which new franchises are granted must be approved by the Board of Estimate before the Rapid Transit Commission can pass favorably on a franchise and it limits the terms of such franchises to a twenty year term with a possible twenty

vear renewal. It was upon this last clause that most of the discussion turned yesterday. George L. Rives, one of the counsel to the commission, said that the twenty year limita tion would mean that private capital would not be forthcoming for the building and equipment of the new subways, and that the bill would intrench the existing transit companies in their monopoly for the reason that with their power houses and equipment they would be the only companies able to bid for new lines on a ty year lease

Albert B. Boardman had opposed the bill Senator Elsberg spoke in its de-fence. R. Fulton Cutting, W. M. Ivins and F. W. Hinrichs were others who urged the Mayor to sign the bill.

It is generally believed that the Mayor

will approve the measure. HARRY D. CAREY, PLAYWRIGHT.

Amateur Will Play the Leading Role "Montana"—Is a Lawyer. MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., April 20 .- Harry

D. Carey, lawyer and formerly a college athlete, a son of former County Judge Henry D. Carey of Westchester county, who at present lives at Terrace Point. City Island, has turned author and actor. Mr. Carey has written "Montana," a melodrama which will be presented on Monday night at the New Rochelle Theatre. He will play the leading rôle of Jim Graham, a ranch foreman, which part, it is said, he is well adapted to, having spent four

years roughing it on a Montana ranch.

He was captain of the New York University baseball team and champion middle weight boxer, and for a number of years as held the N. Y. U. record for shot putting.

The Seagoers.

Sailing to-day on the steamship Republic for Genoa, Palermo and Naples: J. W. Ames, Mr. and Mrs. C. Vanderbilt Barton, Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Birdseye, W. J. Chambers, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Cook, Dr. and Mrs. Charles B. Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Durant, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore W. Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. Hollis French, Mrs. John Gibb, Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Hackstaff. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas James, Franklin Murphy, Jr., W. J. Olyphant, Judge I. P. Pugsley, Paul Rushmore, Dr. and Mrs. F. P. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. William L. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Twombly, the Hon. and Mrs. J. M. Varnum, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H, Wright and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Wyatt.

On the Pennsylvania for Hamburg: Mr. and Mrs. Martin Berg, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Chappell, Mr. and Mrs. W. Crampton, Mrs. Theodore Diercks, A. R. Engell, the Rev. Fred W. Jackson, Jr., Frank La Forge, Count Raspopoff Mr. and Mrs. George W. Thatcher, Dr. and Mrs. Edward Jenner Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Heury Wagner. On the St. Paul for Southampton:

Mrs. Francis M. Bacon, Jr., H. V. Day, J. B. Hastings, Albert Ladd, H. H. Landon, Elizabeth Marbury, Marcus R. Mayer, W. Forbes Morgan, D. A. Murphy, Charlotte Nillson, Major E. M. Paul, Mr. and Mrs. William L. Turner, E. D. Walsh, Dr. Lester F. Ward, B. F. Wood and Coleman Woolf. On the Zeeland for Antwerp;

On the Zeeland for Antwerps Prof. and Mrs. E. F. Andrews, Mrs. C. B. Bull, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Decker, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Francis, Gen. Rush C. Hawkins, Mrs. Herman H. Kohlsaat, J. G. Purdon, Admiral W. K. Van Reypen, F. W. Schoverling, Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Varnum, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hobart Warren and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Weber. On the Mesaba for London E. L. Arnott, H. W. Bromhead, Edward C. Elliott, J. T. Fetherston, A. J. Henrique, Commander and Mrs. Fred Lobb and E. P. Frame.

On the Columbia for Glasgow: Mr. and Mrs. George A. Barksdale, Mr and Mrs. William B. Douglas, the Rev. Charles F. Gavin. D. G. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. David King, the Rev. Edward P. Southwell and Will-iam H. Webster.

To Senator and Mrs. Everett Colby, Cracker Jack.

WEST ORANGE, N. J., April 20 .- A daughter was born to State Senator Everett Colby and Mrs. Colby at their home in Llewellyr Park, West Orange, this morning at 3 o'clock. In reply to a question the Sena-tor said:
"She weighs nine and a half pounds and

she's a crackerjack."

The little girl will be named Edith, after her mother. She is the second child in the

TO KILL ODELL PLAN AT ALBANY. Parsons There to Beat the County Reap-

portionment Scheme. ALBANY, April 20.-Herbert Parsons. president of the New York county Republican committee, is here to-day conferring with representative members of the Legislature and Gov. Higgins regarding the New York county legislative apportionment plan. Mr. Parsons had a long consultation with William Barnes, Jr., chairman of the execu-

> mittee, and Speaker Wadsworth and Assembly Leader Moreland. The Parsons plan has been in possession of the legislative reapportionment committee, of which Senator Lewis is chairman, for several days, having been submitted by Senator Page. It can be asserted that the Odell apportionment plan is to be consigned to the legislative waste basket without ceremony, and that Odell and Quigg and their bunch will get no consideration what-

tive committee of the Republican State com-

ever in Albany. President Parsons went to Albany to President Parsons went to Abany to begin the fight to induce the Legislature to adopt his reapportionment plans in place of the Odell-Halpin scheme which was recommended by the committee at Thursday night's meeting.

Before he left for Albany Mr Parsons Before he left for Albany Mr Parsons

Before he left for Albany Mr Parsons said that he had no doubt that the Legislature would adopt his plan, for the reason that it had been devised solely in the interests of the party as a whole, and not like the Odell scheme to keep in power as many as possible of the district leaders who are Odell supporters.

Because he was outvoted at the meeting

of the county committee on Thursday night the report was prompted yesterday by some of the district leaders who are opposed to him that Mr. Parsons intended to resign

to him that Mr. Parsons intended to resign the presidency of the committee. It can be stated on the authority of Mr. Parsons himself that he has no such idea. One matter of interest which came out yesterday, following Thursday night's meeting, was that the Odell forces were so bent on beating Mr. Parsons on a roll call that the back dues of more than a hundred members were paid up in the two days preceding the meeting. It was common rumor yesterday around the Fifth Avenue Hotel and the Republican county headquarters that the payments were made by the Odell faction and that these members

by the Odell faction and that these members in return had pledged themselves to vote against Mr. Parsons.

The apportionment plan, now that the insurance legislation is out of the way, will be fully formulated over Sunday and put through the Legislature just as Gov. Higgins's friends want it.

AGAINST NIAGARA FALLS BILL.

The Power of Congress to Prevent the Diversion of the Waters Is Questioned. WASHINGTON, April 20.-Arguments were continued to-day before the House Com-

mittee on Rivers and Harbors against the Burton bill for the preservation of Niagara Falls. Franklin D. Locke of Buffalo and Paul D. Cravath of New York made legal arguments in opposition to the measure, contending that Congress had no power to prevent the diversion of the waters of a navigable stream so long as the diversion does not interfere with navigation.

George W. Wickersham, representing the Lackawanna Steel Company, said his company had invested \$6,000,000 in a steel plant near Buffalo upon the assurance of obtaining power.

"This," he said, "is an æsthetic question against a commercial problem. Power could be produced from Niagara Falls 20 to 25 per cent. cheaper than from coal. It is for you to say whether you will legis-

at is for you to say whether you will legislate for commerce or scenery."

Gen. Francis V. Greene, representing the Ontario Power Company and the Lockport Company, read telegrams from Chief Engineer M. M. Nunn of these companies, which said that 60,000 cubic feet of water per second or approximately 40 per cent per second, or approximately 40 per cent of the flow might be diverted without im-pairing the scenic beauty of the falls, except for about a hundred feet on the Canadian

cept for about a hundred feet on the Canadian side, where the water is shallow. The annual variation is greater than that and has no appreciable effect.

Gen. Greene, in answer to questions, estimated that the total amount diverted, if all the companies used all that their charters authorized them to use, would be 87,300 cubic feet per second, or about 42 per cent. He thought the diversion of 100,000 cubic feet could not be detected by the naked eye, and that with this diversion

the naked eye, and that with this diversion Niagara would still remain the greatest and grandest cataract of the world. Senator Platt of New York to-day presented a memorial from the Board of Trade of Niagara Falls remonstrating against the Burton bill to prevent the taking of water from Niagara River for power purposes.

CAMPAIGN FUNDS SINCE 1860.

Mr. Sulzer Says That Fortune Has Smiled on the Party That Has the Most Money. WASHINGTON, April 20 .- Mr. Sulzer of New York to-day gave to the House of

Representatives what he called "some information regarding the campaign funds of the two great political parties since 1860." He used them to sustain his assertion that things had come to such a pass in this country that the result of Presidential elections was controlled by the use of money; that, as Napoleon remarked about Providence being on the side that had the heaviest cannon, fortune smiled upon that party which had the biggest fund. Prior to 1860, he said, so far as he could find out, no campaign fund at the command of any party had ever exceeded \$25,000. In that year and subsequently, according to Mr. Sulzer's figures, the funds were as

follows:

Mr. Sulzer claimed for his figures substantial accuracy and said that they were based upon good authority. They were used in a brief speech advocating the passage of the McCall bill requiring committees in charge of Presidential or Congressional campaigns to report to the clerk of the House their receipts and disbursements in detail. The bill, Mr. Sulzer said, had been drawn by the National Publicity Bill Association, and he warmly commended its work under the presidency of Perry Belmont, who has spent his time in Washington promoting the enactment of the bill. Mr. Sulzer claimed for his figures sub-

For New State Department Building.

WASHINGTON, April 20 .- Senator Wetmore of Rhode Island has reported from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds a bill authorizing an expenditure of \$3,000,000 for a building for the Departments of State, Justice and Commerce and Labor in the site on the south side of Pennand Labor in the site of the south side of Pennand Labor in the site of the south side of Pennand Labor in the site of the south side of Pennand Labor in the site of the south side of Pennand Labor in the site of the south side of Pennand Southern the Southern the south side of Pennand Southern the S sylvania avenue, between Fourteenth and

Francis Resigns as Regent.

ALBANY, April 20 .- Charles S. Francis of Troy, who was appointed recently by President Roosevelt as Minister to Austria. to-day filed with the Secretary of State his resignation as a member of the Board of Regents of the University of the State. The vacancy will be filled by election by

For an Asphalt Repair Plant in Brooklyn. The Board of Estimate approved yesterday an appropriation of \$25,000 for the establishment of an asphalt repair plant in Brooklyn. It is to be erected near Walls-

bout Market.